

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF OCTOBER 28TH, 1931.

The Board of Public Works met at the offices of the Governor, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, on Wednesday, October 28th, 1931.

Present:

Albert C. Ritchie, Governor,  
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller,  
John M. Dennis, Treasurer.

The Board took up the question of damage caused by fire to Pier 8, Light Street, Baltimore, owned by the State, and leased to Wilson Line, Incorporated. Mr. Dennis requested that he be allowed to look into this matter, and take it up with Wilson Line, and report at a later meeting.

The request was approved.

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A letter from the Maryland Training School for Boys was read, in which it was requested that the School be allowed to use funds belonging to the new Vocational Building which will not be spent for some time, for use in connection with work on Charles Cottage, the Vocational Building fund to be reimbursed out of funds becoming available for the work at Charles Cottage out of the August 15th, 1932 issue of bonds of the General Construction Loan of 1931.

The School also requested authority to use funds to the credit of the Vocational Building for work of reconditioning Baltimore Cottage, the funds to be restored to the Vocation Building fund out of funds becoming available for work on the Baltimore Cottage out of the February 15th, 1932 issue of bonds of the General Construction Loan of 1931.

The above requests of the School were granted.

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The following letter from Douglas H. Gordon, President of St. John's College, was read and considered

## ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND.  
October 10, 1931.

Board of Public Works,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sirs:

I am instructed to transmit to you the following resolution of the Board of Visitors and Governors of St. John's College, which, upon motion regularly made and seconded, was unanimously passed at the meeting of the Board held in Annapolis, Maryland, on September 23, 1931:

"RESOLVED: That the Chair appoint a Committee to draft resolutions embodying the views of the Board regarding the possible co-operation of the College in providing a site for said Memorial Record Hall. The Chair appointed the following gentlemen on this committee: Messrs. Buck, Gordon, Melvin and Pearl; whereupon the Committee submitted the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland, at its session of 1931, appropriated the sum of \$200,000, for the erection and equipping of a Memorial Hall of Records wherein, among other things as provided by law, are to be placed, preserved and made available for reference and study, the historical papers, documents and records now owned and to be acquired by the State of Maryland, and

"WHEREAS, The acquiring of a suitable site for such building has been committed by said Act of Assembly to the Board of Public Works:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Visitors and Governors of St. John's College takes great pleasure in offering to provide, without cost to the State of Maryland, a site for the Memorial Hall of Records, at such location on the front campus of St. John's College as may be selected by mutual agreement between the Board of Public Works and the Board of Visitors and Governors of the College.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the further details of the offer and of the conveyance be likewise left to mutual agreement of the two Boards above named.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the President of the College is hereby authorized to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Governor of Maryland and a copy to the Board of Public Works."

It will be a great pleasure to cooperate with the State in any possible way should the college property be used as the site of the Memorial Hall of Records.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Douglas H. Gordon.  
President.

DHG/mo

The Board did not take any action in the matter, pending receipt of information, which members of the Tercentenary Commission were to have secured regarding sites, in accordance with an understanding at the last meeting of the Board that this would be done.

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The following communications from Spring Grove State Hospital, and J. Glasgow Archer, Jr., Administrator of the estate of Elizabeth Hergenrother, were read and considered:

SPRING GROVE STATE HOSPITAL

CATONSVILLE, MD.

Sept. 10, 1931.

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Secretary,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

My dear Mr. McCusker:-

I am enclosing you a letter and document from J. Glasgow Archer, Jr., who is the administrator of the estate of Mrs. Elizabeth Hergenrother.

Mrs. Hergenrother was a private patient for a number of years and for financial reasons was finally transferred to the public list. At the time of her death she owed the Hospital \$1,697.66, for which there was an offer to settle for \$703.94

Will you please look the matter over and write us your opinion as to how we should proceed in the manner of settlement.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert E. Garrett.  
Superintendent.

Encl.  
REG/RO

TYDINGS, LEVY & ARCHER

BELAIR, MD.  
August  
Twenty-first  
1931

Dr. Robert E. Garrett  
Spring Grove State Hospital  
Catonsville, Md.

Dear Dr. Garrett:

Following the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Hergenrother, in November, 1931, I was appointed Administrator of her estate, and published the usual Notice to Creditors. I have just stated a First and Final Account in the Orphans Court, under which there was a balance of Eight Hundred and Five Dollars and Fifty-nine Cents (\$805.59) to be distributed.

Though the bill of the Spring Grove State Hospital was the only one filed against this estate, the amount of the undertaker's bill was Five Hundred and Forty-five Dollars and Six cents (\$545.06). In accordance with the code provision, Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) of the funeral bill is a preferred claim against the estate, which in this case I paid in full up to that amount. The balance of Two hundred and Forty-five Dollars and Six Cents (\$245.06), under this account, shares on a pro rata basis with the Hospital bill of Sixteen Hundred and Ninety-Seven Dollars and Sixty-six Cents (\$1697.66), the dividend being .4146. On this basis I distributed the sum of Seven Hundred and Three Dollars and Ninety-four Cents (\$703.94) to the Hospital.

I am enclosing a Release to be executed by you, as Superintendent of the Spring Grove State Hospital acknowledging payment of this amount. After you have executed this Release and acknowledged it before a Notary Public, I wish you would return the same to this office so that I may forward you a check. Of course the signing of this Release does not preclude you from taking such action as you deem fit against the sons of Mrs. Hergenrother for the balance of the hospital bill.

Very truly yours,

/s/ U. Glasgow Archer, Jr.

JGA:BM  
1 encl.

The Board authorized the execution of the Release by Spring Grove State Hospital, and the receiving of the sum of \$703.94 from the Administrator.

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The following letter of the Board of Welfare was read and considered:

## BOARD OF WELFARE

September 21, 1931.

Mr. J.O. McCusker, Clerk,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

We are asking for approval of the following contracts  
of the Maryland House of Correction:

Herbert J. West-	Alterations to present dining room and construction of new dining room	\$38,785.00
Lloyd E. Mitchell-	Heating contract for dining rooms	\$5,550.00
Van Dorn Iron Wks. Co.-	The tool proof steel for dining room	\$3,130.00

Payment to be made from special appropriation authorized by the last legislature.

Very truly yours,

Robert D. Case  
Secretary.

The Board approved the contracts entered into by the Board of Welfare for the work mentioned.

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The Secretary reported to the Board that the State Bank Commissioner since October 1, 1931 has been occupying offices numbers 606, 607, 608, 609, 610 and 611 Union Trust Building, in accordance with authority given to the Bank Commissioner at a previous meeting to engage additional space.

The Board approved the rental of \$3,715.00 a year for this space.

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The Secretary reported that the Board of State Aid and Charities had taken additional space in the Union Trust Building so that Miss Anita Faatz, Supervisor of Social Welfare, would be able to have office space in the quarters used by the Board of State Aid and Charities.

"St. Dept.  
of Public  
Welfare"

The Governor stated he had agreed to this, and the Board approved the acquiring of the additional space at the rental of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, effective October 1, 1931.

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There was submitted to the Board a letter from James Posey, Consulting Engineer, and copy of contract between Crownsville State Hospital and Fairbanks, Morse & Company, for the installation of Deep Well Pump at the Institution, at the price of \$2,520.00.

The Board approved the contract.

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The following letter from Buckler & Fenhagen, Architects, was read and considered:

BUCKLER & FENHAGEN -ARCHITECTS  
325 North Charles St.  
Baltimore, Maryland.

September 24th, 1931

*Victor Cullen*  
Re: Nurses Home, Md. Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Md.

Gentlemen:-.

We are listing below the bids for labor and material for the above building. In each case the award was made to the bidder listed first.

Millwork:

Heise & Bruns, Baltimore, Md.	\$3,300.00
Hess Planing Mill Co., Waynesboro, Pa.	3,875.00
Herman Nors, York, Pa.	3,900.00
Hagerstown Lumber Co.	5,096.97

Iron Work:

Dietrich Bros. Baltimore,	2,773.00
Maryland Steel Produce Co., Baltimore,	2,800.00
Armstrong & Parker	3,000.00

Steel Sash:

International Casement Co., Jamestown N.Y.	2,075.00
Henry Hope & Sons, Stamford, Conn.	2,132.00

Finished Hardware:

Emmert Hardware Co., Hagerstown, Md.	
Sargent Hardware	1,700.00
Hubbard & Eagleston, Baltimore	
Yale & Towne	2,000.00

Mastic Floors:

Thos. Moulding Floor Co.	1,836.00
Johns-Manville	1,925.00
The Duraflex Co.	1,930.00

Very truly yours,

RB/S

/s/ BUCKLER & FENHAGEN

The Board approved the purchases and contracts outlined in the foregoing letter.

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The following letter from Rosewood State Training School was read and considered:

ROSEWOOD STATE TRAINING SCHOOL

September 24, 1931.

Mr. Joseph O. McCusker,  
Deputy State Comptroller,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

We have a claim from Mrs. John F. Schaeffer amounting to \$127.00 for expense of medical and nursing service to herself following an automobile accident, in which she was injured by the car belonging to this institution.

Our chauffeur was driving our car on official business and struck Mrs. Schaeffer as she attempted to cross the street in front of the car. She was not seriously injured, but injured enough to require the attention of a physician and nurse for several weeks following the accident.

We would like to be able to pay this small claim out of item #36 (Other Expenses) of this years' Budget, provided you will allow us to do so, as we have that amount available.

We have not assumed any obligation to pay the claim, and will await your decision in the matter before requesting Mrs. Schaeffer to render a bill for the \$127.00

Kindly let me know at your convenience what we should do in reference to the matter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Frank W. Keating.  
Superintendent.

FWK:HB

The Board decided to authorize Rosewood State Training School to pay \$127.00 in settlement of expenses as stated in the foregoing letter.

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A letter from the University Hospital, submitting a list of uncollectible accounts, which it was decided to charge to profit and loss at the close of September 30, 1931, totaling \$3,989.35 was considered.

The Board decided to authorize the charging off of these uncollectible accounts.

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The following communications from the State Department of Forestry were read and considered:

STATE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

Oct. 15, 1931.

Mr. J.O. McCusker, Secretary,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

You will find attached hereto detailed description of



tower construction projects which we would like to undertake at an early date. Will you please present these projects to the Board of Public Works for the proper authorization. The projects under consideration are:

1. Telephone Line for Thayerville Tower.
2. Moving of Muirkirk Tower to Burtonsville.

Temporary employees are now on duty, making it desirable for us to get these projects under way as soon as possible. We will therefore appreciate early attention to this request.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Walter J. Quick, Jr.

WJQ/p

Assistant Forester.

Construction of Telephone Line to the Thayerville Forest Fire Tower, Garrett County  
Authorization requested by the State Department of Forestry, October 15, 1931.

At present telephone service for the Thayerville Forest Fire Tower is obtained from the Oakland line, No. 55, by courtesy of Mr. Nicola, a wealthy landowner. Our line extends from the tower to his summer home at Rock Lodge and is connected to the Chesapeake and Potomac telephone line at that point by a switch. As Mr. Nicola has been at Rock Lodge in dry weather during the fire seasons, many times our service has been cut off. The servants at Rock Lodge frequently answer the tower ring and tell the caller that the line cannot be used. Then too, many times when the towerman locates a fire he cannot call through to central because the circuit is broken at the Rock Lodge Switch. For these reasons a change in telephone service is desired. An examination was made to determine possible routes.

It is proposed to run the line from the tower in a straight line to the mouth of Meadow Mountain Run and from there to the Meadow Mountain Road at Mr. Peter Bowser's house ( a straight line from tower to road). Thence along the road to the bridge across the lake. Across the bridge and along the road to the junction with the Old Altamont Road, where we tap on to the Deer Park Line, a distance of 1.7 miles from the home of Peter Bowser, the tower watchman. From the tower to Peter Bowser's house is approximately 1.3 miles. This gives a total distance of about 3 miles to construct.

The advantages in constructing the line along the Meadow Mountain Road to Peter Bowser's house are:

1. Mr. Bowser desires service.
2. Easier to maintain.
3. Extension planned to carry this service to Dry Run for C. & P. Telephone Company service on state forest within five years.
4. Probable desire of people in Dry Run and Black Hawk section for service.
5. Possible extension to Swanton.
6. Cheaper construction costs.
  - a. Less trimming
  - b. Easier location.
  - c. Cheaper erection.

Permission has been granted by the Deer Park Line Association to obtain service at a charge of \$7.00 (approximately) per year, plus our switching charges, or by buying a share in the line (about \$80.00) plus switching charges.

In view of the fact that the C. & P. Telephone system will undoubtedly build a three or four circuit line along state route #37, within the next few years, it is deemed advisable to take the yearly rental service and upon the construction of the C. & P. system to apply for service. (Mr. Boyle, the telephone manager at Cumberland, has given his approval for this arrangement and ultimate transfer).

The point at which we tap the Deer Park line is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from state route #37.

The construction of this line is to be accomplished by the contributive labor of fire control employees during short periods of low fire hazard within the normal forest fire seasons. The salary and wages will thus be provided from the regular Forestry Department budget. Poles are to be cut on state forests or state game refuge properties, thus requiring no expenditure for this purpose.

The estimated expenses to be authorized from the special construction loan of August 15, 1931, are as follows:

3 miles of telephone wire delivered	\$100.00
Expanding plate anchors	7.00
Thimble guy rods	3.50
Wooden pole brackets	5.00
Galvanized wire nails	2.00
Tinned steel connection sleeves	.50
Use of horse for skidding poles	10.00
Telephone lineman's tools	15.00
total	<u>\$143.00</u>

Inasmuch as this project has to do with the improvement and equipping of a forest fire tower, it is felt proper that this expenditure be paid from the construction loan authorized for constructing and equipping towers. Request is hereby respectfully made for authorization of this project.

Respectfully submitted

October 15, 1931.

/s/ Walter J. Quick, Jr.,  
Walter J. Quick, Jr.,  
Assistant Forester.

Moving and Reconstruction of Forest Fire Tower at Burtonsville, Montgomery County.

Authority Requested by

The State Department of Forestry

October 15, 1931.

In the development of the forest fire detection system it has been the effort of the State Department of Forestry to locate forest fire towers, first in the places of greatest fire hazard. Due to meager funds this has frequently meant the location of a tower in the center of an acre too large for it to cover effectively. As further construction becomes possible it will be necessary to

divide up such areas by erecting additional towers in certain portions of the area, shifting the old tower to a new location.

In 1926 a 60 ft. tower was erected at Muirkirk, Prince George's County, which has proven very helpful in handling a situation where there is a greater number of fires than in any other county in the State. However, the situation has been so severe that this tower has been over-burdened for some time, due to serving too large a territory. In June, 1931, a new 100 ft. tower was erected near Hilmeade, Prince George's County, which takes over the eastern part of the area. It is now desired to move the Muirkirk Tower further west, a distance of approximately  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles, just across the county line into Montgomery County, to a better elevation, which will permit prompt detection of fires in eastern Montgomery County, a portion of the old area which was difficult to protect. Although the new location is 240 feet higher than the hill at Muirkirk, the country to the south is rather flat, making necessary an addition to the old tower which will make it 100 feet high.

It is proposed to install the new cement foundations and erect the 40 feet of new steel this fall by means of the contributive labor of tower employees, during days of low fire hazard when the employees are not required for fire duties. Thus the major portion of the labor will be provided by regular salary and wage items in the Forestry Department budget.

A week or two prior to the spring fire season which normally opens on March 15, men will be employed to dismantle the Muirkirk Tower and move it to Burtonsville for re-erection on top of the new steel. Thus the new structure will be placed in service during the spring season, completing our changes in detection facilities incident to the Hilmeade project.

The expenditures involved in this project are estimated as follows:-

Purchase of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre site	\$50.00
35 bags of cement @ 60¢	21.00
10 Tons of gravel @ \$1	10.00
10 tons of sand @ \$1	10.00
Scaffolding and forms	10.00
40 feet of new steel construction	450.00
New airplane beacon top	85.00
Freight on steel	100.00
New steel grating platforms for 40 ft.	75.00
Materials for refinishing cab	45.00
Paint and brushes	14.00
Telephone connections	15.00
Total	\$885.00

Authorization is requested for incurring these expenditures to be paid for from the special construction loan of August 15, 1931.

Respectfully submitted

October 15, 1931.

/s/ Walter J. Quick, Jr.  
Walter J. Quick, Jr.  
Assistant Forester.

The Board decided to authorize the work outlined in the foregoing letters.

The following letter from the State Department of Education was read and considered:

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

John L. Dunkle, Principal

Frostburg, Maryland.

October 22, 1931.

Mr. Joseph O. C. McCusker, Secretary,  
The Board of Public Works,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

My Dear Mr. McCusker:

In 1928, \$50,000 was appropriated for the construction of an elementary school, equipping it, and for paving at the State Normal School at Frostburg. In 1930, \$26,000 additional was appropriated to complete the construction of that building and equip it; and an additional \$5,000 was appropriated for the installation of a new boiler. There was further appropriated at that time \$32,000 for the acquisition of certain lots in the vicinity of the Frostburg Normal School and for improving the campus.

The latter sum will not be available until August 15, 1932. There was available the \$81,000 for the construction of the new training school, equipping it, and paving. About \$73,000 has been spent in the construction and furnishing of the school, and there will be other bills that will bring that total to about \$74,000, leaving an unexpended balance of nearly \$7,000.

The grounds about the new building should be landscaped and sodded, and shrubbery should be planted as well as the playground to be used by the elementary children should immediately be made usable. I, therefore, respectfully request that the estimates that I am making below be made available out of the residue to take care of the work that should be done.

Grading and sodding playground	\$350.00
Making and placing overshoe racks, installing shades and other carpenter work	100.00
Purchase and planting of shrubbery	200.00
Cement walk from landing to playground through grass plot	100.00
Removal of overhead electric lines and placing same in conduits throughout the buildings so as to avoid dangers of live wires among the trees	700.00

It is further requested that any residue be made available for the purchase of property and general improving of the grounds, if when and as estimates of such purchase or cost of such improvements are approved in advance by the Board of Public Works.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ John L. Dunkle.  
John L. Dunkle.  
Principal.

JLD:EH

Approved:

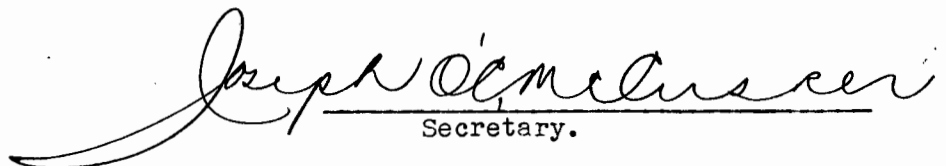
Oct. 26, 1931.

/s/ Albert S. Cook,  
State Superintendent of  
Schools.

The Board decided to approve the request for authority to do the work outlined in the foregoing letter.

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There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

  
Secretary.